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impressed upon the reader much more forcibly than by the detailed presentation contained in M. Tarde's larger works. At the same time the essential artificiality of the doctrines likewise comes out in plainer relief, proceeding as they do, for the most part, and particularly as regards their general features, on a bold and dexterous use of metaphor and analogy. It seems not improbable that, as a result of the conciseness, not to say boldness, with which the ingenious artifices of the theory are here brought out, the volume may contribute materially to curtail the vogue of M. Tarde's sociological doctrines.

The essential superficiality of the formulations offered is shown, *e. g.*, in such generalizations as this: "Habit is merely a sort of internal heredity, just as heredity is only externalized habit. Heredity, then, is the form of repetition appropriate to life, just as undulation, or periodic movement, is its physical, and imitation its social form" (p. 22). Again: "Every real opposition implies a relation between two forces, tendencies, or directions" (p. 88). Under this elastic, not to say ambiguous term, "opposition," are comprised such diverse phenomena as mechanical action and reaction, arithmetical positive and negative, variations of degree, war, industrial competition, discussion, hesitation. It is plainly by a felicitous use of analogy alone that the comprehensive term "opposition" can be made to serve in the discussion of matters so disparate as these. All this is of a character to suggest the moralizing speculations of the eighteenth century and prepares one to meet the metaphysical conception of a spiritually guided progress, expressed in the conclusion that, "It would appear . . . that the strife of opposition fulfills the rôle of a middle term in the social as it does in the organic and inorganic worlds" (p. 133).

T. V.

Report by the Chief Labor Correspondent of the Board of Trade on Trade Unions in 1898 with Comparative Statistics for 1892-1897. London: 1899. Pp. lxxiv + 311. 1s. 6½d.

THIS is the eleventh annual report made by the Chief Labor correspondent of the Board of Trade on trade unions. It presents but few changes in character of contents from the two immediately preceding it. Like those, it contains statistics relating to (1) the organization, consolidation, dissolution, and membership of all trade unions, registered and unregistered, (2) the finances of one hundred "principal unions," and (3) the organization and membership of trade councils

and confederations. The statistics cover a period of years beginning with 1892 and closing with the year for which the report is published. This latest report offers new and valuable material in an analysis of the financial rules of the one hundred "principal unions" above referred to. These unions embrace 63 per cent. of the total membership and are so selected as to represent the several organized trades. The "age of admission," contributions in the form of entrance fees and weekly payments, and the various benefits provided for are shown.

The material made public by the Board of Trade in these reports is very valuable, showing as it does something of the nature and trend of trade unionism in England. The returns secured from the organizations are very complete and the reports are carefully compiled and well arranged. The general reports, published as introductory to the tables, are excellent summaries.

H. A. MILLIS.